DON’T WASTE YOUR LIFE
**Talk 5: Working for what lasts**

**INTRODUCTION**

**THE STORY OF WORK**

**1. Work in the beginning**

*Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image…. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*

*Genesis 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

*Genesis 2:15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*

God works…and rests

Man works before the fall

After the fall work becomes “toil”

*Genesis 3:17-19*

1.

2.

3.

*Eccl 2: 11    Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done
 and what I had toiled to achieve,
 everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind;
 nothing was gained under the sun.*

**2. The work of Jesus**

*John 6: 27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life…28  Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?” 29 Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”*

**3. Work at the end**

*2 Peter 3*

*One thing gets through…………….*

*Which means:*

*…….………..*

*…….………..*

**IMPLICATIONS**

**1. Work is normal, necessary and good, but not ultimate**

**2. It doesn’t matter what you do**

**3. But it matters why you do it**

*Proverbs 26: 14   As a door turns on its hinges,*

 *so a sluggard turns on his bed.*

 *Ephesians 4: 28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.*

**4. If you are a Christian you already have a career**

*Luke 9:60 “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”*

*1 Cor. 15:58  Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

**5. So if you have choices, make choices for the gospel**

Don’t choose a job because of the ‘status’ it gives – your  status is found in Christ

Don’t choose a job that will hinder personal godliness or gospel ministry

Do whatever you can to maximize gospel ministry inside and outside of work

*Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.* 1 Corinthians 15:58